

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3211

March 11, 2019

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
26 Wall Street
New York, NY 10005

Dear Commissioner Laird,

I am writing you today to express my intense frustration with the information recently provided by your office to the community regarding potential delays in ensuring Miller Field will be ready for the spring season. Between soccer leagues and softball leagues, I have well over 10,000 constituents in my district who rely on Miller Field every year to provide their children with a reliable space for recreation and community.

My office was informed that Miller Field could be potentially not operational and fully functional until the last week of May. For decades, our soccer and softball leagues have enjoyed access to Miller Field beginning at the end of April. Due to a frankly byzantine process, seasonal hires and prospective private contractors are being held in bureaucratic limbo. While I understand the shutdown has impacted all levels of government, the Spring season was not some unexpected event to plan for. It occurs yearly, at the same time, and requires the same level of preparedness.

Federal bureaucracy and red tape should never be an excuse when it comes to providing our children and community with the most basic of services. While I am grateful and encouraged by the conversations my office has had with yours over the past week, I want to emphasize the degree to which this is my priority. My office stands ready to assist in any way, shape or form. I also personally plan on visiting the park routinely over the next month to check in on progress. We *cannot* let these families down.

I look forward to hearing back from you and working together to resolve this matter immediately.

Sincerely,



Max Rose
Member of Congress